

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: EFFICIENT USE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERING RESOURCES	DOCKET NO. NOI-00-3
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**ORDER GRANTING IN PART AND DENYING IN PART
MOTION TO EXCLUDE RATE CENTERS**

(Issued July 6, 2001)

On April 3, 2001, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order in this docket initiating thousands-block number pooling trials in the 515 and 641 area codes with the goal of improving the efficiency of telephone number assignment, thereby extending the projected lives of these two area codes.

On April 20, 2001, Qwest filed a motion for reconsideration raising, among other things, a question regarding the appropriate extent of the pooling trials. Qwest stated it currently provides local exchange service in 51 rate centers in the 515 and 641 area codes, but that only seven of those rate centers (identified in Qwest's filing) have either multiple LNP-capable providers or a single LNP-capable provider with more than one switch in the rate center. Qwest suggested there would be little value in pooling in the other 44 rate centers, at least "so long as Qwest continues to be the only LNP-capable service provider within those rate centers and where Qwest has no

more than one switch in them.” Accordingly, Qwest asked that the Board modify its order to require pooling only in the seven identified rate centers.

On May 17, 2001, the Board issued an order granting reconsideration and modifying the April 3, 2001, order to provide as follows: (1) thousands-block number pooling will initially be required in rate centers in the 515 and 641 area codes that are served by multiple LNP-capable local exchange service providers or are served by multiple switches belonging to or operated by a single LNP-capable local exchange service provider; (2) additional rate centers should be added to the pooling trial whenever a new, LNP-capable provider requests telephone numbers in a rate center that is not at that time part of the pooling trial; and (3) pooling should also be required in ten other rate centers where a competitor is providing local exchange service and has requested and received its own block of 10,000 numbers. These exchanges were identified as Urbandale, Adel, Waukee, Winterset, Carlisle, Webster City, Clarion, Humboldt, Renwick, and Eagle Grove. However, the Board gave interested persons 14 days to file a request that one or more of these rate centers not be included in the pooling trial at this time, if it is believed to be inappropriate.

On May 31, 2001, Qwest filed a request to exclude the Adel, Waukee, Winterset, Carlisle, Webster City, Clarion, Humboldt, Renwick, and Eagle Grove rate centers from the pooling trial. Qwest argued that there would be no immediate benefit from pooling in these exchanges because, while it has a competitor in each of

these exchanges, those competitors are not yet LNP-capable and therefore cannot currently participate in pooling with Qwest.

The Board will partially grant Qwest's request. The Board agrees that the Webster City, Clarion, Humboldt, Renwick, and Eagle Grove exchanges can be excluded from the initial pooling trial, so long as they can be added to the trial in a timely manner if the existing competitor becomes LNP-capable or if a different competitive local exchange service provider requests telephone numbers in any of these rate centers. However, the Board will require that the Adel, Waukee, Winterset, and Carlisle rate centers be included in the trial at this time. These four rate centers are located close to Des Moines and appear to be experiencing relatively rapid growth, making them more likely locations for new competitive entry. Thus, they are also more likely to experience requests for new numbering resources. If such requests are received, but for some reason Qwest is not able to implement pooling in these exchanges in a timely manner, then numbering resources would be wasted. The increased likelihood of competitive entry in these four Des Moines-area rate centers justifies including them in the number pooling trial at this time.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for exclusion filed by Qwest Corporation on May 31, 2001, is granted to the extent described in the body of this order. The Webster City, Clarion, Humboldt, Renwick, and Eagle Grove rate centers will be excluded from the initial pooling trial, so long as they can be added to the trial in a timely manner if the

existing competitor becomes LNP-capable or if a different competitive local exchange service provider requests telephone numbers in any of these rates centers.

2. The Adel, Waukee, Winterset, and Carlisle rate centers will be included in the initial round of the thousand-block number pooling trial in the 515 area code.

3. The Board retains jurisdiction over this matter to issue such future orders and take such further actions as may be appropriate.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Acting Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 6th day of July, 2001.